

- (III) the species of Figures 8~10;
- (IV) the species of Figures 11~12; and
- (V) the species of Figures 13~14.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's grouping of species, but as required by 35 U.S.C. 121, Applicant elects the species illustrated in Figures 8~10 and believes that Claims 1, 9, 10 and 11 are readable on the elected species. It is further believed that Claim 1 is generic to all of the species.

As clearly noted in Applicant's specification, Figures 1~7 are directed toward a grip having two grooves 11, 11a for engaging the elastic string 2. Similarly, Applicant's Figures 8~14 are directed toward a grip having single groove 11 for engaging the elastic string 2. Thus, Applicant submits that the grouping of the species should be:

Species I - illustrated in Figures 1~7; &

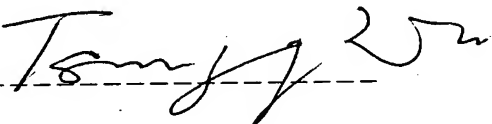
Species II - illustrated in Figures 8~14.

In this grouping of the species, Applicant elects Species II illustrated in Figures 8~14. Again, it is submitted that Claims 1, 9, 10 and 11 are readable on the elected species.

However, Claim 1 is generic to all of the species including species I & II as grouped by the applicant.

An early action on the merits of this application and a substantive examination therefor is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted:

By: 

T. Z. Wu

on: 5/26/04